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Tribune Capitol Bureau Chief Virgil Meibert has seen them all—the Kennedys, Reagan, Gerald Ford and Jerry Brown. He has covered candidates and issues since the 1950s, when he worked for an Arizona daily and traveled with Barry Goldwater.

He came to the Tribune more than 12 years ago, after a stint in the U.S. Marine Corps. From general assignments he moved to The Trib's courthouse reporter to editorial writer and seven years as chief editorial writer. An editorial on schools won him the coveted John Swett Award.

Our man in Sacramento for two years now, Meibert covers the State Capitol with insight and persistence.

For the inside story on state politics, read Meibert in the Trib.